

Sayings  
(Instructions)  
of Yuhana  
(John the  
Baptist)

## THE INSTRUCTIONS OF YUHANA

*'Bshumayhon 'd Hayyi rabbi*

In the name of the Great Hayyi

**T**hese are clear words, inspired by the master of human beings. These are the instructions of Yuhana, the son of Zechariah, to the NaṢurayyi, the sincere and faithful.

O NaṢurayyi!

If you are strong, then be exemplary in your honesty, like the king who places a crown upon his head, and wields his sword in the face of evil. If you are not so strong, then be a true *Nasuraya*, like a successful farmer harvesting the fruit of the earth. The righteous will benefit from it, and those of exemplary honesty will derive strength from it.

If you become a *NaṢuraya*, each of your virtues will be a weapon to help those of exemplary honesty. You are helping them through faith, integrity, knowledge, wisdom, learning, supplication, prayer and glorification, charity, goodness, humility, perfection, purity, compassion, mercy, insight, and the love of truthfulness.

- ⊗ The apex of truthfulness is not to distort speech, so do not lie or deceive others.
- ⊗ The apex of faith is to believe that the Great Hayyi is the most constant in all virtues.
- ⊗ The apex of integrity is to judge yourself.
- ⊗ The apex of gnosis is not to be controlled by your temptations.
- ⊗ The apex of knowledge is not to put yourself in jeopardy.
- ⊗ The apex of wisdom is not to be playful among the believers.

- ⊗ The apex of hope is to learn and teach the words of your Lord.
- ⊗ The apex of instruction is not to abandon the recommendations of virtuous and pious teachers.
- ⊗ The apex of your resolution is not to change your word.
- ⊗ The apex of prayer and glorification is not to love sleep.
- ⊗ The apex of charity is to feed the hungry and to give drink to the thirsty.
- ⊗ The apex of your clemency is not to be an ogre.
- ⊗ The apex of humility is to keep mentioning the name of your Lord.
- ⊗ The apex of your righteousness is to reform yourself and to accept the advice of wise men.
- ⊗ The apex of moderation is not to say what you do not know.
- ⊗ The apex of your happiness is to be respected by the people.
- ⊗ The apex of discretion is to think before you speak.
- ⊗ The apex of chivalry is not to seize what is not yours, even if you desire it.
- ⊗ The apex of your purity is to purify yourself.
- ⊗ The apex of your virtues is to control yourself.
- ⊗ The apex of perfection is not to be arrogant.
- ⊗ The apex of compassion is to have mercy for the poor and those who are persecuted.
- ⊗ The apex of praise is to praise the place from which you came.
- ⊗ The apex of remembrance is not to forget death.
- ⊗ The apex of love is to collaborate with your brethren in loving your Lord.
- ⊗ The just person is like a scale.

- ❁ The just person is like an honest judge.
- ❁ The believer is a successful farmer.
- ❁ The intellectual is an organized builder.
- ❁ The prudent person is a masterful artist.
- ❁ The steadfast person is like a mountain.
- ❁ He who doubles his prayers and glorifications will see double his profits.
- ❁ The almsgiver is like a table laid out for the poor and the needy.
- ❁ Clemency is like a delicious fruit.
- ❁ The humble person is like abundant water.
- ❁ The pure person is like a spring of fresh water.
- ❁ The pious person is like a well-polished mirror in which faces can be easily distinguished.
- ❁ Compassion is like the sun, for both the pious and the impious.
- ❁ Mercy is like a gentle breeze that blows against all doors.
- ❁ He who is full of truth is like a righteous father who brings provisions for his sons and his scions.
- ❁ You, the chosen and righteous ones: keep yourselves away from deceit, sins, falsehood, lying, falsity, and from evil. Keep away from temptation, cruelty, and ignorance. Do not blaspheme and do not engage in adultery. Avoid envy and hatred, resentment and malice, and shamelessness.
- ❁ Chosen ones, I warn you against contemptuous faces, and do not engage in drunkenness or wrongdoing; these are all from Satan.
- ❁ Deceit is like a hole in the ground, covered over with straw.
- ❁ Sin is like a rotten pomegranate.

- ⊗ The liar is an enemy in the guise of a friend.
- ⊗ Trickery is a sea in which ships are lost.
- ⊗ Evil is a tree of bitter fruit.
- ⊗ Cruelty is gravel.
- ⊗ Wrath is fire borne by the wind.
- ⊗ An arrogant wise man is an unpolished mirror.
- ⊗ Wisdom without discipline is a horse without a saddle.
- ⊗ Wisdom without insight is a ship without a sailor.
- ⊗ A quiet voice and balanced speech are the priorities of wisdom.
- ⊗ Do not fear the wise man, even if you do not agree with him.
- ⊗ The ignorant, through his ignorance, exposes himself to the sword.
- ⊗ The ignorant dances while the bond is around his neck.
- ⊗ Wisdom for the ignorant is like a mirror for a blind person.
- ⊗ Many ignorant people who are silent are thought to be wise.
- ⊗ Woe to those who say, but do not do! Woe to those who do the opposite of what they say, and for those who hide the opposite of what they reveal!

This is what was revealed to the faithful wise man, Yuhana, son of Zechariah, in Jerusalem.

